

Dolly Sisters Score Hit In Premiere of New Farce



ROSZIKA AND YANSICI DOLLY.—BELASCO.

By JULIA CHANDLER.

The first of a dying theatrical year flared up brilliantly at the Belasco Theater last evening, where A. H. Woods exploited the Dolly Sisters—Roszika and Yansci—in a new farce entitled "His Bridal Night," the piece having obviously been built by Lawrence Flinn around the clever twins who have many a time delighted us in vaudeville and musical revue with their graceful dancing.

As far as I know, Mr. Flinn's name is a new one on the roster of the theater, but if his ability to keep an audience amused may be measured by the pleasure afforded a capacity house last evening, we may look to him for future laughs galore, for "His Bridal Night" elicits favor shortly after the first curtain, when Mrs. Joe Damorel's twin sister Tiny, in an effort to teach Vee (said Mrs. Joe) that the wedding ceremony should mark the decease of flirtations, elopes with Joe who is entirely ignorant of the substitution because the sisters are so alike that even their own relatives cannot tell them apart.

The victim of Vee's wiles on the eve of her honeymoon is so deluded by the similarity of the twins that he too, imagines himself in love with the young wife and proceeds to follow the honeymooners to a Tuxedo cottage which young Damorel has engaged from a friend as an ideal spot to spend an unmolested three weeks with his bride.

Here his demonstrations of affection meet with strange rebuffs from his supposed spouse until the arrival of Lent Trevett, the pursuing lover, when complications are piled the one on top of the other until even the audience has difficulty in keeping track of who is who and which and what.

Tiny still unsatisfied that Vee has been cured of her fickleness, and determined to effect a permanent relief for her flirtatious proclivities insists that she is Vee, while the real Vee is equally loud in her protestations that but a few hours ago she has married Joe Damorel, and young Trevett is perplexed as to which girl has been the recipient of his protestations of love.

In an effort to untangle the skein of identity the two men resort to every

sort of strategy from branding their victims to having them repeat a terpsichorean performance in which they once admired the fair pair, adding mole hunting as a final unsuccessful venture, until at last, when the twins declare themselves, things have become so mixed that the two men so vitally involved will not believe their word until their mystified Aunt Julie examines a slim ankle for a hidden birth-mark, when Damorel finds he has really married the girl of his heart, and Trevett discovers that she of his love-making is free to share his life.

The farce opens with tempo a little slow and unpromising, but before the first of the three acts is at an end has swung nicely into rapid action, gripping the interest and tickling the risibilities of the auditor until the final curtain finds the Dolly Sisters the recipients of an ovation both on account of their artistic dancing and the genuineness of their farcical ability. Roszika Dolly imbues her impersonation of Vee with a pliancy that is charming, while Yansci is equally as clever in her visualization of Tiny. Their digression from the vaudeville world promises much of pleasure to the theater-goer who enjoys a good laugh (and who doesn't?) for as farceses their methods are as refreshing as they are individual and distinctive.

The supporting cast in the presentation of "His Bridal Night" is excellent. John Westley giving a capital performance as Joe Damorel, while Frank Thomas is equally effective as Lent Trevett; Lucille Watson offers a convincing picture of Aunt Julie; Harry Lillford scores a tremendous personal hit as Algernon, the Butler accused of having bitten the branded woman; Jessie Ralph gives a capable performance as the maid, and Davis Edwards impersonates the chauffeur.

Bertram Harrison has furnished two effective mountings for the piece and Lucille has surpassed herself in the wonderful sartorial creations worn without stint by the Dolly Sisters throughout a farce that serves well its purpose of hilarity.

"His Bridal Night" will continue the attraction at the Belasco Theater the balance of the current week with the usual Saturday matinee.

Next Week's Attractions

National—"The Birth of a Nation."

"The Birth of a Nation." D. W. Griffith's great photoplay spectacle of the civil war and reconstruction days continues to attract large audiences to the National Theater, although next week will be the fifth and last of its engagement in this city.

Dealing with scenes easily within the memory of many men, this picture has proved its possession of a peculiar way over the emotions of all classes and degrees of folk. Its love story, though of a type that has been seen in tales of the civil war, has a strong emotional appeal.

The very capable cast, presenting the piece includes Henry B. Walthall, Mae Marsh, Mariam Cooper and Lillian Gish. To Walthall and Mae Marsh fall the chief histrionic scenes of the action. Lillian Gish, as the daughter of the unrelenting Stoneman, proves particularly lovely in the last climaxes, while Mariam Cooper is fascinating as the proud Southern girl.

Poli—"Back Home."

The Poli Players will return to the gayest side of life next week when "Back Home," Bayard Veiller's comedy, will be the bill. A. H. Van Buren and Maude Gilbert both have roles that are declared to fit them like the proverbial glove.

"Back Home" was founded on Irvin S. Cobb's "Judge Priest" stories. The play is said to be rich in sentiment, sympathy and humor. Judge Priest, the lovable, and Jefferson Davis Poindester, the humorous servant dandy, are of

course, among the most important personages in the piece.

There is no more popular writer in the flesh today than Irvin S. Cobb. His character delineations and descriptions are of transcending interest. The dramatist is said to have projected Mr. Cobb's "Judge Priest" stories into a lovable human comedy in "Back Home."

Keith's—Vaudeville.

Two co-stars will head the Keith bill next week; Mary Shaw, the Shavian and Ibsen, actress, with her own company in "The Dickey Bird," and Jack Wilson, assisted by Lillian Boardman and Frank Hurst in another phase of "An Impromptu Revue." In which the follies of other footlight folks are held up for ridicule. Belle Baker will be added feature, with songs about human types and mundane topics. "Jasper," the dog-star of "Young America," also is among the conspicuous features. Mme. Adelaide Herrman will offer new illusions and magic. Others will be Joseph Maxwell's production of "The Little Stranger," a race-track romance; Ralph Smalley, the Boston Symphony Orchestra solo cellist; Beerman and Anderson, the roller skating wags; the organ recitals and the Pathe Pictorial.

Loew's Columbia—Paramount Pictures.

Hazel Dawn will be pictured in "The Feud Girl" during the first part of next week at Loew's Columbia Theater, beginning with the Sunday afternoon performance. Filmed in the very heart of the Georgia mountains where feuds such as this play depicts actually existed.

"The Feud Girl" is said to be endowed with a realistic atmosphere rarely obtained in the production of a motion picture. Irving Cummings, Arthur Thompson, Hardee Kirkland, Gertrude Norman and others of the Famous Players company appear in the supporting cast.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday George Behan will be pictured in "Parade," a play written by himself in collaboration with Lawrence McCloskey. The action carries one from the peaceful, quiet village of Oakdale in California to the trenches in the warring countries in Europe and back again to America. Myrtle Stedman, Helen Eddy, Page Peters, and other Morisco Photoplay stars are in the supporting cast.

Gayety—Photoplay Features.

Beginning next Monday, the Gayety will be given over to the presentation of photoplay features and this policy will be adhered to during the entire summer season. Red Feather and Bluebird features, which are productions from the Universal studios, and which are noted for the quality of both the plays and the stars appearing in them, will be shown.

Following is the program for the week Monday, Tyrone Power in "John Noddyham's Doublet"; Tuesday, Louise Lovely, in "Tangled Hearts"; Wednesday, Carter de Haven, in "A Youth of Fortune"; Thursday, Mary Fuller, in "A Huntress of Men"; Friday, Violet Mercereau, in "The Great Problem"; Saturday, Jane Gail, in

"Rupert of Hentzau." Sunday, King Baggett, in "Half a Rogue." Manager Jarboe announces that particular attention will be given to lady patrons and that there will be present a woman attendant. Under the new policy, smoking is abolished in all parts of the house.

Cosmos—Vaudeville.

The new bill at the Cosmos theater the last half of the week, beginning at the matinees today, will have B. A. Rolfe's act, "The Lonesome Lassies," presented by Harry Watson, Jere Delaney and "The Fashion Girls," as its headliner. Other acts will include Kennedy and Melrose, acrobatic clown, the Franklin Ardel Players; "Cluquot"—which means a surprise of music, and Goulet, Harris and Morey; "Lonesome Luke" in "The Bomb Throwers" will furnish the film laughter and the big photoproduction will picture Kitty Gordon, in "As in a Looking Glass."

The Sunday concert features an orchestral program, with new specialties and other attractions.

Lycum—Burlesque.

Two burlesques sandwiching an olio of vaudeville specialties, are announced as next week's attractions at the Lycum Theater. The first is entitled, "The Egyptian Springs," which gives Matt Kolb opportunity for fun-making. "Fun in the Union Depot," is the title of the second.

As a particular diversion, "Ora Ental,"

a classic dancer will present several samples of Oriental terpsichore. A chorus of twenty girls will frequently disport themselves on the runway into the audience, which continues to be a feature at all performances at the Lyceum.

Garden—Feature Films.

Francis X. Bushman and Beverly Bayne, will form the headline attraction at Moore's Garden Theater from Sunday to Wednesday next week. The comedy portion of the program on these days will include Frank Daniels, in "Mr. Jack's Artistic Sense."

On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Billie Burke will be seen in "Caught by the Samboles," another chapter of Rupert Hughes' photoplay story, "Gloria's Romance." On Thursday and Friday the program will further include Virginia Pearson, in "The Vital Question." On these days the program will further include a comedy featuring Harry Watson in "The Musty Buffer." On Saturday Edith Sterling will hold the screen in "The Stain in the Blood." George Ovey will also be seen in a farce comedy entitled, "Jerry Fools the Cops."

Strand—Feature Films.

As the principal attraction at Moore's Strand Theater next week from Sunday to Thursday, Rex Beach's "The Ne'er-Do-Well," with Wheeler Oakman and Kathryn Williams in the leading roles is underlined.

On Friday and Saturday De Wolf Hopper will hold the screen in "Sunshine Dad," in which the elongated funmaker assumes the role of a benevolent old gentleman bent upon spreading good cheer. In so doing he treads various paths, comes in contact with a cosmopolitan crowd of people, and has many unusual adventures. Ford Sterling in Mack Sennett's, "The Snow Cure," will constitute the auxiliary attraction on these days. The Strand Symphony Orchestra will render appropriate musical accompaniments.

Crandall's—Feature Films.

A return engagement of the Fox feature, "The Eternal Sapho," Theda Bara's latest vehicle, is scheduled for presentation at Crandall's on Sunday. Robert Warwick will be seen on Monday and Tuesday in "Sudden Riches." Mr. Warwick is supported by Gerda Holmes and Clara Whipple. The attraction for Wednesday and Thursday is the Fox production, "Sins of Men," which is based on the creed of selfishness. Stuart Holmes, Dorothy Bernard and Claire Whitney are the featured players. For the remaining two days of the week, the World feature, "Idols" will be shown with Katharine Raeford and George Soule Spencer in the principal roles.

What would it be worth to you to have returned that lost jewelry, or dog, or valuable document? Have you advertised for them in the "Lost and Found" column?—Dan Layles.

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